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Sixth Committee
Agenda item 84
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

Draft resolution

The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Recalling its resolutions 64/117 of 16 December 2009 and 65/33 of 6 December 2010,

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments and observers and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth, sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions of the General Assembly, on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,

Recognizing the diversity of views expressed by States and the need for further consideration towards a better understanding of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,

Reiterating its commitment to fighting impunity, and noting the views expressed by States that the legitimacy and credibility of the use of universal jurisdiction are best ensured by its responsible and judicious application consistent with international law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared on the basis of comments and observations of Governments and relevant observers;[1]

2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of this topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for this purpose decides to establish, at its sixty-seventh session, a working

[1] A/66/93 and Add.1. See also A/65/181.

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group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction;[2]

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant observers, as appropriate, to submit, before 30 April 2012, information and observations on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, information on the relevant applicable international treaties, their domestic legal rules and judicial practice, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-seventh session, a report based on such information and observations;

4. *Decides* to open the Working Group to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency and to invite relevant observers of the General Assembly to participate in the work of the Working Group;

5. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction".

[2] The Working Group will take into account the informal working paper of the Working Group at the current session (A/C.6/66/WG.3/1).